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India

FAIRS Subject Report

GOI Publishes Guidelines Regulating Aquatic Quarantine for the Import of *Litopenaeus vannamei* (White Leg Shrimp)

2008

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Report Highlights:

On October 15, 2008, the Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India (GOI) issued a final Gazette notification pertaining to the guidelines regulating aquatic quarantine for the import of *Litopenaeus vannamei* (White Leg Shrimp) into India. The regulation has not been notified to the WTO.

Includes PSD Changes: No
Includes Trade Matrix: No
Trade Report
New Delhi [IN1]
[IN]

Introduction: This report provides a brief overview of the final Gazette notification (Notification No. - S.O.2482 (E), dated October 15, 2008) issued by the Ministry of Agriculture on the guidelines regulating aquatic quarantine for the import of *Litopenaeus vannamei* (White Leg Shrimp) into India. This regulation has not been notified to the WTO.

Disclaimer: This summary is based on a *cursory* review of the subject announcement and therefore should not under any circumstances, be viewed as a definitive reading of the regulation in question, or of its implications for U.S. agricultural export trade interests.

Type of Regulation: Final

Important Dates:

- **Publication Date:** October 15, 2008
- **Date of Implementation:** October 15, 2008
- **WTO Notification Date:** Not notified (as of November 3, 2008)

Products Affected: *Litopenaeus vannamei* (White Leg Shrimp)

Agency in Charge: Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries (DADF), Ministry of Agriculture (MOA), Government of India (GOI).

Proposed Changes:

The final rule describes the guidelines regulating aquatic quarantine for the import of *Litopenaeus vannamei* into India. It also provides information on the bio-security requirements for the quarantine facility, import permit, port of entry and quarantine requirements. The pre-border quarantine requirements specifically refer to the various kinds of certificates required to be issued by the competent authority of the exporting country.

The full text of the official notification is attached along with this report.

- संक्रमित स्टॉक को नष्ट करने के लिए संगरोध में एक उपयुक्त भस्मक लगाया जाए।
- संगरोध से स्वीकृति के बाद आयातित ब्रूड स्टॉक को आयातक को सौंप दिया जाएगा।

5.0. विसंक्रमण की पद्धतियां

क) अपशिष्ट का विसंक्रमण

- संगरोध/हैचरियों से निकलने वाले सभी दूषित जल को क्लोरीन से विसंक्रमित किया जाए तथा इसके बाद इसे छोड़े जाने के पूर्व विक्लोरीकृत किया जाएगा। अपशिष्ट उपचार प्रणाली (ई टी एस) को संगरोध में प्रयुक्त जल की कुल मात्रा से निपटाने के लिहाज से डिजाइन किया जाए।

ख) भस्मीकरण द्वारा जन्तुशव का निपटान

- मृत जन्तुओं को भस्म कर दिया जाएगा।

ग) उपकरणों का विसंक्रमण

- उपकरणों के विसंक्रमण के लिए 200 पी पी एम मुक्त क्लोरीन का उपयोग सतत किया जाए।

घ) भवनों का विसंक्रमण

- भवनों के विसंक्रमण के लिए प्रति 100 क्यूबिक फुट क्षेत्र के लिए 17.5 ग्राम पोटेशियम परमैंगानेट तथा 35 मी0 ली0 37% जलीय फार्मलीन का उपयोग किया जाए।

[फा. सं. 35029/4/2008-मा. (टी एंड ई)]

तरुण श्रीधर, संयुक्त सचिव

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE
(Department of Animal Husbandary, Dairying and Fisheries)

NOTIFICATION

New Delhi, the 15th October, 2008

S.O. 2482(E).—In exercise of the powers conferred by Sub-Section (1) of the section 3 of the Livestock Importation Act, 1898 (Act 9 of 1898) as amended by Livestock Importation Act, 2001 (Act 28 of 2001), the Central Government hereby notifies the guidelines regulating the method of operation of aquatic quarantine for the import of *Litopenaeus vannamei* into India as per the schedule annexed to this notification:

[भाग II—खण्ड 3(ii)]

भारत का राजपत्र : असाधारण

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SCHEDULE**1.0 Bio-security requirements for the quarantine**

- The quarantine facility should have a wall or fence around the periphery of the premises, with adequate height to prevent the entry of animals and unauthorized persons.
- Each functional unit of the quarantine should have independent water treatment facility and water supply systems, and should be isolated from the water supply systems of other functional units.
- Water for the quarantine should be filtered and treated to prevent entry of vectors and any pathogens that may be present in the source water. This may be achieved by initial filtering through sub-sand well points, sand filters (gravity or pressure), or mesh bag filters into the first reservoir or settling tank. Following primary disinfection by chlorination, and after settlement, the water should be filtered again with a finer filter and then disinfected using ultraviolet(UV) light and/or ozone.
- The discharged water from the quarantine should be held temporarily and treated with hypochlorite solution (>20 ppm active chlorine for not less than 60 min) or other effective disinfectant prior to discharge. This is particularly crucial where the water is to be discharged to the same location as the abstraction point.
- Entrance to the quarantine area should be restricted to the personnel assigned to work exclusively in this area and a record of personnel entering the facility should be maintained by the security personnel.
- Quarantine unit staff should enter through a shower/dressing room, where they remove their street clothes and take a shower before going to another dressing room to put on working clothes and boots. At the end of the working shift, the sequence should be reversed.
- There should be means provided for disinfection of vehicle tyres (tyre baths at the gate) feet (footbaths containing hypochlorite solution at >50 ppm active ingredient) and hands (bottles containing iodine-PVP (20 ppm and/or 70% alcohol) to be used upon entering and exiting the unit.
- An adequate number of containers should be available in the quarantine to facilitate effective daily routine movement of shrimp in and out of the facility.
- The quarantine facility should have an independent supply of water and air with separate treatment and disinfection systems and a system for the treatment of effluents to prevent the potential escape of pathogens into the environment.
- The seawater to be used in the facility must be directed to a storage tank where it will be treated with hypochlorite solution (20 ppm active ingredient for not less than 30 minutes) followed by sodium thiosulphate (1 ppm for every ppm of residual chlorine) and strong aeration.
- Used plastic containers and hoses must be washed and disinfected with hypochlorite solution (20 ppm) before reuse.
- Each holding tank should have a separate set of implements which must be clearly marked and placed near the tanks. Facilities for disinfection of all equipment at the end of each day should be available.

2.0 Import Permit and Port of entry

- Permission for importing the broodstock of *L. vannamei* shall be granted by the Coastal Aquaculture Authority (CAA) according to the annual requirement of Specific Pathogen Free (SPF) *L. vannamei* broodstock to the eligible applicants.

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THE GAZETTE OF INDIA : EXTRAORDINARY

[Part II - Sec. 3(1)]

- The CAA in consultation with National Fisheries Development Board (NFDB), Central Institute of Brackishwater Aquaculture (CIBA) and Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA) shall short-list the SPF *L. vannamei* suppliers based on the genetic base and disease status. Import of SPF broodstock shall be permitted only from such suppliers.
 - Chennai shall be the designated port of entry for the import of SPF broodstock.
- 3.0 Pre-border quarantine requirement**
- The following certificates in original, issued by the competent authority of the exporting country should accompany the consignment of SPF broodstock and copies of the certificates should be made available to the quarantine officer at least 2 days before arrival of the consignment.
 - A certificate indicating the SPF status of the broodstock in relation to the pathogens excluded in the shrimps.
 - A certificate indicating the history of disease occurrence in the broodstock rearing facility of the exporter for the last two years.
 - A certificate indicating that the batch of exported broodstock was held in pre-quarantine for a period of 12 days and the results of the tests for the following pathogens should be included.
 1. Taura syndrome virus (TSV) (OIE listed)
 2. Yellowhead virus (YHV) (OIE listed)
 3. Infectious myonecrosis virus (IMNV) (OIE listed)
 4. Infectious Hypodermal and Haematopoietic Necrosis Virus (IHHNV) (OIE listed)
 5. Baculovirus penaei (BP) (OIE listed)
 6. White spot syndrome virus (WSSV) (OIE listed)
 7. Necrotising hepatopancreatitis bacterium α -Proteobacterium (NHFB)¹
 - The testing should have been done not earlier than 10 days before the actual shipment.
 - Before shipment, detailed information on the actual quantity/number of broodstock to be imported should be furnished in the form of package slip indicating the number of cartons they are packed in.
- 4.0 Quarantine requirements**
- The importers should book their space in the quarantine facility well in advance by providing copies of the relevant documents to the Animal Quarantine Officer and paying the requisite fees as may be fixed by the Ministry of Agriculture (Department of animal Husbandry, Dairying & Fisheries).
 - Clearance of the consignment of SPF broodstock at the airport, its transportation to quarantine facility alongwith the quarantine staff, maintenance at the quarantine facility and repacking and transportation to the hatcheries shall be the responsibility of the importer.
 - The packing materials should be of good quality in order to avoid any accidental damage.
 - The space in the carton should comply with acceptable densities specified for *L. vannamei*.
 - The consignment should not be opened at any transit point. If it is found to be tampered, the entire consignment shall be rejected and the animals destroyed.
 - The importer shall receive the consignment only at Chennai.
 - Precautions should be taken to prevent spillage of water and damage to the containers during transportation.

¹ This pathogen is presently under study for inclusion in OIE list.

Part II - ANNEX 3 (B)

WETLANDS - SHRIMP

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- In the event of any accidental spillage of water during transport, the importer shall ensure the decontamination of water using OIE approved disinfecting procedures.
- There shall be a gross inspection of the consignment on arrival by the Animal Quarantine Officer but before its despatch to the quarantine facility. The quarantine staff may accompany the consignment till it reaches the quarantine site and the consignment will be opened at the specified site in the presence of the representatives from Coastal Aquaculture Authority (CAA) and Central Institute of Brackishwater Aquaculture (CIBA) to ensure that the supply has been received in good condition and as per the terms and conditions of the permission for import of *L. vannamei*.
- The samples from the imported shrimp should be collected before releasing them into the tanks at the quarantine facility.
- The vehicles used for transport of the exotic brood stock from the airport to the quarantine facility shall be disinfected immediately after the transfer of the animals to the quarantine and the containers used for the transport will be destroyed under supervision of the team as may be designated by the CAA.
- A minimum quarantine period of ten days in case of shrimp brood stock shall be observed to ensure that the consignment is free of diseases and poses no risk.
- The brooders in the quarantine will be tested by CIBA for all known pathogens through OIE prescribed methodologies. The health of the brooders shall be monitored everyday and the visual changes recorded in a register. Mortality, if any, shall be recorded in a separate register. The moribund or visibly weak animal shall be preserved in ethanol and formalin for further disease investigations.
- No live feed shall be given to the brooders during the quarantine period. Only pelleted feed of standard companies shall be used for feeding after check for any pathogen. The leftovers and metabolic wastes should be removed immediately as per the quarantine procedures.
- Disinfectant bath of 1:2000 KMnO₄ should be maintained in the quarantine facility and all persons entering or leaving should wash their hands and feet in the bath.
- During the initial ten days period of quarantine, if any exotic disease is observed the entire brood stock should be destroyed.
- An appropriate incinerator should be installed in the quarantine for destroying the infected stock.
- After clearance from the quarantine, the imported broodstock shall be handed over to the importer.

5.6 Disinfection methods

A) Effluent Disinfection

- All waste waters released from the quarantine/ hatcheries should be disinfected with chlorine and then dechlorinated before release. The Effluent treatment System (ETS) should be designed to handle the total water volume used in the quarantine.

B) Carcass disposal by incineration

- The dead animals shall be incinerated.

C) Disinfection of equipments:

- 200 ppm of free chlorine shall be applied overnight for disinfection of equipment.

D) Disinfection of Buildings:

- 17.5 gm potassium permanganate and 35 ml of 37% aqueous formalin per 100 cubic feet area should be used for disinfection of building.

[P. No. 350294/2008-17, (T.E.S.)]

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